

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 3-5 to correct typographical errors and clarify their language. Applicants have also amended claims 1 and 35 to define the invention further. The cancellation of claim 12 moots the rejection of that claim under 35 USC 112, first paragraph. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested. With the entry of these amendments, claims 1-11 and 14-35 will be pending. Applicants authorize the Examiner to cancel non-elected claims 18-33 upon the indication of allowable subject matter in this application if the Examiner finds claims 18-33 should not be rejoined with the elected claims.

Claims 1-5, 10, 11, 14, 34 and 35 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Sekido in view of Tunis. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner reads Sekido as disclosing all of the steps of the invention as broadly claimed but for the provision of the resin distribution medium, for which the Examiner looks to Tunis as evidence of obviousness. However, neither Sekido nor Tunis *in combination* discloses or suggests the claimed application of both the resin distribution medium and reinforcing fiber substrate to the entire surface of the core. That is, although Sekido may suggest applying a reinforcing fiber substrate to the entire periphery of a core, Tunis does not suggest applying the resin distribution medium in the same way. As the Examiner will note, Tunis discloses mostly structures made of multiple cores, but in no case is the resin distribution medium applied around the entire area of any of the cores. For example, Figs. 6 and 7 and their supporting disclosure at col. 6, lines 18-44, to which the Examiner refers specifically in the Action, disclose a single core around which a main feeder groove 62 is disposed and a resin distribution medium 64 adjacent the core faces *that does not cover the feeder groove 62 and thus does not cover the entire surface of the core*. The Examiner cannot say that it would have been obvious to cover the entire surface

of the core with the resin distribution medium from Tunis, since neither Tunis' broad disclosure nor a single specific embodiment of Tunis discloses such a structure. In fact, Tunis teaches away from the invention by explaining in several places, starting in the Abstract, that the feeder grooves, which are not part of the resin distribution medium itself, serve the function of allowing the resin to flow relatively quickly. Modifying the Tunis disclosure to eliminate or cover the feeder grooves between ends of the resin distribution medium is contrary to Tunis' disclosure and thus would not have been obvious.

Claims 1-5, 10, 11 and 34 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Tunis in view of Sekido. This rejection is respectfully traversed because it would not have been obvious to arrive at the invention as claimed even if the order of consideration of Sekido and Tunis is reversed. The Examiner has failed to provide any motivation from Tunis or Sekido to depart from the resin distribution medium structure disclosed in Tunis based on anything that Sekido discloses.

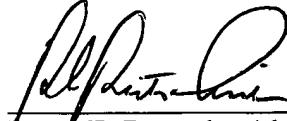
Claims 6-9 and 17 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Sekido and Tunis in view of secondary references. These rejections should be withdrawn because Sekido and Tunis do not provide the teachings for which they are cited in support of these rejections. The Examiner did not include claims 15 and 16 in any statement of rejection, but this seems to have been inadvertent in view of the discussion on pages 9-10 of the Action; the same discussion applies to these claims as well.

Early action allowing claims 1-11, 14-17, 34 and 35 is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge

the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to
Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 360842008200.

Respectfully submitted,



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